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protein), and ability to interact with T cells, resulting in activation comparable to that obtained using the corresponding full-length antigen. The crucial test is that the antigen which is used for activating the T cells causes the T cells to be capable of recognizing an antigen in the NS of the mammal (patient) being treated.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 4, 16 and 19 as follows:

A4 July 1
1 (Amended). A method for preventing or inhibiting neuronal degeneration in the central nervous system or peripheral nervous system to ameliorate the degenerative effects of injury or disease, comprising administering to an individual in need thereof at least one active ingredient selected from the group consisting of nervous system (NS)-specific activated T cells; a NS-specific antigen; a peptide derived from a NS-specific antigen; a nucleotide sequence encoding a NS-specific antigen; and a nucleotide sequence encoding a peptide derived from a NS-specific antigen, thereby causing NS-specific activated T cells to accumulate at the site of injury or disease and prevent or inhibit neuronal degeneration at that site, with the proviso that when the disease being ameliorated is an autoimmune disease, the NS-specific antigen is not an autoimmune antigen involved in that

Q4 disease and said T cells are not activated against an autoimmune antigen involved in that disease.

Q5 ~~Sub B7~~ 4 (Amended). The method according to claim 1 wherein said NS-specific activated T cells are selected from the group consisting of autologous T cells, allogeneic T cells from related donors, and human lymphocyte antigen (HLA)-matched or partially matched semi-allogeneic or fully allogeneic donors.

Q6 16 (Amended). The method according to claim 13, wherein said NS-specific antigen or peptide is administered orally so as to build up a critical T cell response.

Q7 ~~Sub B16~~ 19 (Amended). A method for providing T cells for future use, comprising:

obtaining T cells from an individual;

activating said T cells against at least one nervous system antigen; and

storing said activated T cells in a cell bank of T cells that have been activated against a nervous system antigen, for future use.

Please add new claims 38-40 as follows:

Q8 ~~Sub B17~~ 38 (New). A method for inhibiting neuronal degeneration in the central nervous system or peripheral nervous system of an individual in need thereof, comprising causing nervous system (NS)-specific activated T cells to accumulate at the site of neuronal degeneration in the

38 individual in need, thereby inhibiting neuronal degeneration at that site, with the proviso that when the individual has an autoimmune disease, said T cells are not activated against an autoimmune antigen involved in that disease.

39 (New). A method in accordance with claim 38, wherein said neuronal degeneration is that which results from an injury or disease.

40 (New). A method in accordance with claim 38, wherein NS-specific activated T cells are caused to accumulate at the site of neuronal degeneration by administering to the individual in need thereof at least one active ingredient selected from the group consisting of:

- a) NS-specific activated T cells;
- b) a NS-specific antigen;
- c) a peptide derived from a NS-specific antigen;
- d) a nucleotide sequence encoding a NS-specific antigen; and
- e) a nucleotide sequence encoding a peptide derived from a NS-specific antigen.

REMARKS

Claims 1-40 are presently pending in the present application. Claims 3, 9-15, 17, 18 and 20-37 have been withdrawn from consideration. No claims have been allowed.